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de Informações Sociais,
Econômicas e Territoriais

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Uma das maneiras de olhar o ofício de produzir informações sociais, econômicas e territoriais é como arte de descrever o mundo. Estatísticas e mapas transportam os fenômenos da realidade para escalas apropriadas à perspectiva de nossa visão humana e nos permitem pensar e agir à distância, construindo avenidas de mão dupla que juntam o mundo e suas imagens. Maior o poder de síntese dessas representações, combinando, com precisão, elementos dispersos e heterogêneos do cotidiano, maior o nosso conhecimento e a nossa capacidade de compreender e transformar a realidade.

Visto como arte, o ofício de produzir essas informações reflete a cultura de um País e de sua época, como essa cultura vê o mundo e o torna visível, redefinindo o que vê e o que há para se ver.

No cenário de contínua inovação tecnológica e mudança de culturas da sociedade contemporânea, as novas tecnologias de informação - reunindo computadores, telecomunicações e redes de informação - aceleram aquele movimento de mobilização do mundo real. Aumenta a velocidade da acumulação de informação e são ampliados seus requisitos de atualização, formato - mais flexível, personalizado e interativo - e, principalmente, de acessibilidade. A plataforma digital vem se consolidando como o meio mais simples, barato e poderoso para tratar a informação, tornando possíveis novos produtos e serviços e conquistando novos usuários.

Acreditamos ser o ambiente de conversa e controvérsia e de troca entre as diferentes disciplinas, nas mesas redondas e sessões temáticas das Conferências Nacionais de Geografia, Cartografia e Estatística e do Simpósio de Inovações, aquele que melhor ensaja o aprimoramento do consenso sobre os fenômenos a serem mensurados para retratar a sociedade, a economia e o território nacional e sobre as prioridades e formatos das informações necessárias para o fortalecimento da cidadania, a definição de políticas públicas e a gestão político - administrativa do País, e para criar uma sociedade mais justa.

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Coordenador Geral do ENCONTRO

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Registramos ainda a colaboração de técnicos das diferentes
áreas do IBGE, com seu trabalho, críticas e sugestões para a
consolidação do projeto do ENCONTRO.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA COLLECTION METHODS: ADVANCES IN CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEMS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

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1. Introduction

In the context of demographic data collection, civil registration, is a method that refers to the continuous, permanent and compulsory recording of the occurrence and characteristics of vital events such as live births, foetal deaths, deaths, marriages, annulments of marriages, divorces, judicial separations, recognitions (acknowledgements of the paternity of an illegitimate child), adoptions, in accordance with the legal requirements of a country, for legal and administrative purposes.

A "civil registration system", in turn, refers to the entire administrative, legal, and institutional framework, including the personnel, registration network, procedures, record keeping and retrieval, certification, outputs, services to other agencies, and all other activities pertaining to civil registration in that country. The civil registration system, therefore, encompasses both the registration method and all the institutional arrangements associated with it.

Civil registration is the only continuous source of vital statistics at the national, sub-national and community level. "Vital statistics" are the statistical information on the numbers and characteristics of the vital events, such as live births, foetal deaths, marriages and divorces, that are registered by the civil registration system during a particular period of time in a specified territory. They are compiled, edited, processed, analyzed, published and disseminated in a permanent and continuous manner. The responsible institution may be one concerned with their collection, or another, for example the National Statistical Agency, Ministry of Health, or even by a shared responsibility of two agencies.

The term "vital statistics system" encompasses the entire process of compiling, editing, analyzing, publishing and disseminating information on vital events, including the administrative settings.

The legal feature of civil registration records are of interest to the individual, the society, and the administration of the country. Civil registration records legally prove the occurrence and characteristics of a live birth, death, marriage, foetal death, divorce in a certain place and at a certain time. Topics collected in a birth registration record that ultimately serve the human rights of the person concerned, include: name, sex, date of occurrence, citizenship, parental relationship, name of mother/father, place of residence of the mother, place of birth.

A marriage registration record and records on other civil status events relate to the legal formation of the family or its dissolution thereof. As such, they protect family rights, including the rights of children and women.

A death registration record, proves the occurrence of a death, and therefore frees the person of debts and liabilities, enables the surviving family members to inherit his state, and his widow to remarry or avail himself of social security and benefits.

The uses of the vital statistics are, however, linked to the well being of the community and the country as a whole rather than the welfare of the individual. Information from this source is for health, epidemiological, demographic, and socio-economic uses. Important social indicators like infant and maternal mortality rates, causes of death, are directly derived from civil registration data. When registration data are analyzed in conjunction with population census or population registers data (or population projections), basic demographic indicators can directly be calculated for various socio-economic groups of the population, and several geographical divisions down to the community level. These indicators are needed to formulate, monitor, and evaluate, socio-economic developmental programmes, assess trends of population growth, health situation, monitor health interventions, and so forth.

Although vital statistics can be obtained from other sources like population censuses and sample surveys, the continuous vital statistics have important qualities not present in the others, and they are therefore of great value to a national demographic database, among other multiple uses. Furthermore, as they are derived from civil registration, a permanent and compulsory source, their cost is cheaper than the others. Moreover, vital statistics are important in assessing the performance of the civil registration system itself, because without them one cannot determine whether or not the civil registration system is complete or whether the reported characteristics are accurate and consistent.

The glamour of civil registration, resides in the fact that it is universal, permanent, continuous, and compulsory. It is therefore, a viable, indestructible, irreplaceable, ever-growing system, a booster of human rights and sustainable development causes, and a primary source for continuous demographic data. If well functioning, civil registration provides the needed information at the community level required to measure, evaluate and monitor the impact of health and population intervention programmes, such as family planning, mother and child health care, immunization and vaccination, youth development, elderly care, etc.

The demographic, epidemiological, individual, social, and administrative uses of vital records illustrated in the above examples, among other applications, provide strong justification to maintain effective and efficient civil registration and vital statistics systems in every country of the world. Civil registration should be accorded first priority among the demographic data collection methods in every country of the world, and so should be its vital statistics. Unlike population censuses and sample surveys, which are undertaken on a periodic or **ad-hoc** basis, civil registration and vital statistics systems require permanent administrative infrastructure, budget for their daily operation and maintenance. Their performance need to be constantly monitored, and a comprehensive laws and regulations must provide support to the systems.

The technical cooperation provided by the United Nations throughout the years toward the civil registration and vital statistics systems has enhanced the international comparability of data and information. Definitions of vital events, concepts of topics, classifications, and tabulations, etc., have been adopted by the majority of countries. All developed countries and a few developing countries have now reliable civil registration and vital statistics systems. However, there is much to be done in the developing countries in order that the systems attain completeness, reliability, and timeliness.

2. Advances in civil registration and vital statistics systems at the global level

The above uses of civil registration and vital statistics data and information, and their current status of development, clearly indicates the need for new impetus toward the civil registration and vital statistics systems. Further, the United Nations has responsibility for compiling and publishing demographic data, including all vital events, in its Demographic Yearbook for all countries and areas of the world. These are a few reasons to explain why the United Nations Statistics Division has engaged in promotional activities for their improvement worldwide.

In 1989, an International Programme for Accelerating the Improvement of Vital Statistics and Civil Registration Systems was designed to provide a common framework for supplying technical cooperation to developing countries to upgrade and modernize their civil registration and vital statistics systems. It was jointly designed by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics (IIVRS). This multi-agency approach, besides strengthening international cooperation, avoids competing and overlapping efforts by United Nations agencies. The programme emphasizes the need for a national commitment to develop and maintain effective CR/VS systems, including the administrative structures, technical guidance for their operation, maintenance, evaluation, and comprehensive laws and regulations to support their daily operations.

In 1991, the Statistical Commission of the United Nations endorsed the International Programme, made UNSD Focal Point, approved its phase implementation during the 1990s, and urged the co-operation of the co-sponsoring agencies to carry out the activities outlined in the Programme.

Under the above framework, phase one of the International Programme was implemented by the United Nations Statistics Division between 1991 to 1995, with financial support mainly from UNFPA. Technical contributions to the International Programme were also received from the International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics, the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, Denmark, Finland, France, Norway, Sweden, and the United States of America. Among its activities, five Workshops on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems were planned and implemented in different regions of the world, as follows:

1. Latin American Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2-6 December 1991. Organized by the Statistical Division and hosted by the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses of the Government of Argentina. Eleven Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries of Central and South America participated in the workshop, in which birth registration coverage is 80 percent and more and included: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Venezuela and Uruguay. In addition, participants from International, regional, bilateral and non-governmental organizations attended the workshop. The Latin American Workshop successfully inaugurated the International Programme. Subsequent international activities in the area of civil registration and vital statistics had considerably benefitted from the methodological settings for the 1991 Workshop.

2. Western Asia Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems, Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic, 20-24 June 1993. It was organized jointly by the United Nations Statistical Division and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and hosted by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic. The following ESCWA member states participated: Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Sultanate of Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, The United Arab Emirates, and the Republic of Yemen. Representatives of Denmark and the United States of America had attended and contributed papers to the workshop.

3. East and South Asian Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems, Beijing, China, 29 November to 3 December 1993. It was organized by the United Nations Statistical Division with the participation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. It was hosted by the State Statistical Bureau of the People's Republic of China. The workshop was attended by representatives of the following countries: Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, The Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Pakistan, The Philippines, The Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. Denmark, Sweden and the United States of America also attended.

4. African Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems (For selected English-speaking countries), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 5-9 December 1995. It was organized jointly by the United Nations Statistical Division and the Economic Commission for Africa which also hosted it. High rank officials from the following countries attended the workshop: Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The following developed countries attended: Finland, Norway, Sweden and the United States of America.

5. African Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems for 12 French-speaking countries of Africa. It was organized jointly with the Economic Commission for Africa. The Directorate of Statistics of the Government of Morocco hosted the workshop in Rabat, Morocco, from 4 to 8 December 1995. The following countries participated in the workshop: Angola, Benin, Cameroun, Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Seychelles. The developed countries that had sent their representatives to the workshop included: Denmark, Finland, France, Norway, Sweden, and the United States of America. The International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics, the UNFPA Country Support Teams based in Dakar and Addis Ababa have also participated in the workshop.

The comprehensive recommendations from the workshops took into account the review and assessment of the national civil registration and vital statistics systems of each participating country, the experiences of participating developed countries, and the discussions during the Workshop. This process identified the main problems and constraints facing the systems in each country, and strategies for their improvement. Following the conduct of workshops, several of those countries have committed to improvement programmes, mainly with national resources, and activities are underway. Reports on proceedings of the workshops have been published and country reports on status of civil registration and vital statistics systems of participating countries are available at the clearing house of information in the Statistics Division both in hard copy and in computerized files .

In summary, 84 countries participated in the workshops and other activities of the International Programme, phase one. All objectives were met. Initially countries with 80 percent or more birth or death registration coverage were targeted. As the Programme moved to African and Asian countries, other countries with lower birth/death registration coverage were invited.

Other activities undertaken by UNSD between 1991 and 1995, intended to assist countries in the operation of efficient civil registration and vital statistics, included:

1. The preparation of technical reports and manuals:

- A technical report on Review and Evaluation of UNFPA Supported Projects on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.

- Manual for the Management, Operation and Maintenance of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems.

- Manual for the Computerization of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems.

- Manual on How to Prepare a Legal Framework for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems.

- Manual on Education and Communication for Effective Civil Registration.

2. A clearing-house of information for CR/VS systems at UNSD is in operation at UNSD, the focal point for the International Programme. It comprises both hard copy and computerized text-files on review and assessment and current status of CR/VS systems for each country participating in the workshops and 30 other additional countries.

3. A data base on methodology for civil registration and vital statistics for workshops participating countries and others that joined the international Programme. It includes administrative infrastructures for CR/VS, procedural aspects for operating civil registration and vital statistics systems (e.g. definition of vital events, time allowances for registration, registration/vital statistical forms, related legislation, publications, etc.

4. Comprehensive guidelines to assess the current status of development of Civil registration and vital statistics systems, including the adequacy of the current legal framework, the registration procedures, completeness of registration and reporting, quality of data, processing of vital statistics, publication, channels of coordination, efficiency in providing certification of vital events. Also guidelines are available to prepare a national master plan of action to guide in the gradual implementation of reforms (available in all six United Nations official languages).

5. Published eight reports on workshop proceedings (the Western Asia Workshop Report has been published in Arabic & English; the report for the 1991 workshop was published in both English and Spanish). A compendium of the national reports on current status of CR/VS systems was published in Arabic language for the 11 countries participating in the 1993 workshop held in Damascus, and in Spanish for the 11 countries participating in the 1991 workshop.

6. Carried out short-term missions to follow up on the implementation of workshop recommendations.

Furthermore, between 1992 and 1994 and with financial support from United Nations Children's Fund, the former United Nations Department of Technical Cooperation for Development, and UNFPA, six feasibility studies on accelerated improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems were carried out in Brazil, Botswana, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and the Philippines.

The International Programme has indeed created greater awareness among government authorities, policy-makers, concerned high rank national officials, and international and bilateral organizations for the utility of data and information from the civil registration and vital statistics systems for a variety of social, developmental and administrative programmes. By placing the civil registration system at the human rights platform, at the grass roots of a country's administration, and not only as a source of continuous vital statistics, the United Nations and the sponsors of the International Programme hope to draw necessary attention from governments toward the steady improvement of civil registration and its statistics. Long-term political and financial commitment from governments are viewed as indispensable to ensure their proper operation and maintenance.

The Statistics Division has recently submitted to UNFPA a new project proposal to implement phase two of the International Programme, between 1996 and 1999 inclusive. If approved, it would enable the Statistics Division to maintain the momentum in countries already participating in the five workshops, help them to obtain concrete results, and include all least developed countries and others into the short-term and long-term steps to correct the systems' constraints. Forty-eight least developing countries and 8 countries at low stages of CR/VS systems' development would be targeted during phase two.

The proposal to strengthen international advocacy, cooperation and assistance toward the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems in developing countries, falls in line with the United Nations current policies of national capability building, sustainable development, human development, promotion of human rights, enhancing women's and children's rights, etc. Improved national civil registration and vital statistics systems will indeed help countries themselves and also the United Nations to attain its goals and objectives and those of its specialized agencies.

3. Who is responsible for the national civil registration and vital statistics systems: A global overview

A. The national civil registration system

According to the United Nations definitions, a civil registration system may be administered in a centralized manner or it may be decentralized. The latter is a pattern in federative countries, in which responsibility for the administration of civil registration rests with each state or province of the federation. In a decentralized civil registration system, no national office is available to administer civil registration nationwide, with the exception of Mexico.

A centralized registration system has a national registration office to oversee civil registration throughout the country, which directs over the registration work carried out in each local registration office. The location of this national office varies from country to country. For example, it may be under the Ministry of Interior (or Home Affairs), the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health, the Tax Board Office, the National Statistical Office, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, etc. However, the field offices, known as local registration offices, do not necessarily belong to the same ministry or agency.

In 1994, the International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics (IIVRS), a partner of the International Programme, conducted a survey to ascertain the organizational structure of national civil registration and vital statistics systems. Annex A provides detailed information on the administrative arrangements for countries of the world for both civil registration and vital statistics systems as well as the sub-national settings to carry out registration¹. The statistical references on organizational issues below are based on this study. From the 166 countries in the survey with centralized registration systems, 40.3 percent have placed the administration for civil registration under the Ministry of Interior, 33.7 percent under the Ministry of Justice, 10.8 percent under the Ministry of Health, and 15.1 percent under other government agencies. Variations of the type of national agency responsible for civil registration by regions of the world can be found in table 1 below.

¹. Organization of National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems: ~~An~~ Update, Technical Paper No.63. International Institute for Vital Registration and Statistics, December 1995

Table 1. MINISTRIES RESPONSIBLE FOR CIVIL REGISTRATION IN COUNTRIES WITH CENTRALIZED CIVIL REGISTRATION SYSTEM BY REGION

Region	Interior	Justice	Health	Other
All regions	67(40.3)	56(33.7)	18(10.8)	25(15.1)
Africa	26(54.2)	9(18.8)	4(8.3)	9(18.8)
America, North	3(13.6)	13(59.1)	2(9.1)	4(18.2)
America, South	4(40.0)	5(50.0)	0(0.0)	1(10.0)
Asia	17(41.5)	12(29.3)	8(19.5)	4(9.8)
Europe	16(29.9)	12(35.5)	1(2.9)	5(14.7)
Oceania	1(9.1)	5(45.5)	3(27.3)	2(18.2)

Note: Percent in parenthesis

Source: Organization of National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems: An update, op. cit., page 3.

The choice of the Ministry of Justice to house the national civil registration office in a country is perhaps related to the legal value of the civil registration records as the law is the foundation for civil registration. In other instances when the Ministry of Interior is responsible, it may be because this Ministry has a considerable number of field offices to give support to the registration work. On the other hand, countries that have placed the national civil registration office at the Health Ministry, it may be because the ministry has a direct interest on data from civil registration for its programmes. Furthermore, the local health centers are spread throughout the country and can be assigned the registration work as well with only a marginal cost.

There are significant variations among regions. In 54.2 percent of the African countries, 41.5 percent of the Asian countries, and in 29.9 percent of European countries, the Ministry of Interior is charged to oversee registration. While in 59.1 percent of the North American countries and in 50.1 percent of the South American countries, and 45.5 percent of the countries in Oceania, the Ministry of Justice is vested with such responsibility. In 40 percent of countries in South America, and in a quarter of countries in Asia and Europe, the responsibility rests in another Ministry.

In several countries, civil registration is merged with one/two or more other services to the population, such as electoral rolls, population identification services, visas, passports, naturalizations, population registers. This can be a cost-effective arrangement on the condition that civil registration is well administered and closely monitored. Costa Rica, Panama, and Dominican Republic provide examples of civil registration linked to the Electoral Tribunal. While Argentina, Colombia, South Africa, carry out registration tied to identification services. Further, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Malaysia, Kuwait, Seychelles, Sweden, and others, carry out civil registration tied to the population register and identification service. Yet in Chile and Zimbabwe civil registration is handled together with personal identification, passports, visas, naturalizations, etc.

It should be noted, that good quality civil registration data is the basis for the reliability of the above-mentioned services. Civil registration data must be perfect and free from errors. This is so because errors of omissions in registration and errors in the topics collected in vital records have serious implications for the persons concerned.

b. The national vital statistics system

In 81 percent out of 188 countries, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) compiles and publishes vital statistics from civil registration data. This pattern prevails in all regions of the world, with the highest value in Africa, 89.4 percent, and the lowest value in Asia, 70.7 percent. The National Registration Office, under other than the Health Ministry, is responsible for the vital statistics programme in 9 percent of the countries. Only in a handful number of countries (5.3 percent), the Health Ministry has responsibility for both civil registration and the production of vital statistics, these are examples of main users being the producers of vital statistics as well. In 4 percent of the countries, the compilation of vital statistics rests with the Health Statistics Division of the Health Ministry, but it does not oversee the registration work. Table 2 below gives information for each region of the world.

TABLE 2: AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR VITAL STATISTICS BY REGIONS

Regional	National Statistical Office	National Civil Registration Office (other than Health Ministry)	Health Ministry (also responsible for CR)	Health Ministry (not respon-sible for CR)
All regions	153 (81.4)	17 (9.0)	10 (5.3)	8 (4.3)
Africa	42 (89.4)	3 (6.4)	2 (4.2)	0 (0.0)
America, North	23 (82.2)	2 (7.1)	3(10.7)	0 (0.0)
America, South	9 (81.8)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (18.2)
Asia	29 (70.7)	6 (14.6)	4 (9.8)	2 (4.9)
Europe	39 (81.3)	5 (10.4)	0 (0.0)	4 (8.3)
Oceania	11 (84.6)	1 (7.7)	1 (7.7)	0 (0.0)

Note: Percent in parenthesis

Source: Organization of National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems: an update, op.cit. Annex A

4. Civil registration and vital statistics: the case of Brazil and Argentina

a. Brazil

Brazil participated in the Latin American Workshop on Strategies for Accelerating the Improvement of Civil Registration and vital Statistics Systems held in Buenos Aires, in December 1991. For presentation and discussion at the workshop, the representatives of Brazil, one from IBGE and another from the Ministry of Justice, carried out an assessment of the state of the development of its civil registration and vital statistics systems². Following the workshop, a feasibility study on accelerated improvement of the systems was carried out by the United Nations Statistics Division, with the assistance of two Brazilian consultants³. A paper was also contributed to the workshop on considerations for the

² Luis Armando de Medeiros Frias y Fabio Ribeiro de Abreu, Los Sistemas de Registro Civil y Estadísticas Vitales en Brasil. En "Extractos de los Informes Nacionales: Taller Latinoamericano Sobre Estrategias para el Mejoramiento de los Sistemas de Registro Civil y Estadísticas Vitales: Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2 al 6 de diciembre de 1991" (una publicación de la División de Estadística, Departamento de Desarrollo Económico y Social, Naciones Unidas. Nueva York, 1992).

³ Fabio Ribeiro de Abreu, Luis Armando de Medeiros Frias: Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Brazil: A proposal for Re-organization (Prepared for the United Nations Statistics Division, 1994.)

civil registration and vital statistics systems in Brazil ⁴. An overview of the systems in Brazil is given below based on these studies.

Civil registration administration in Brazil is decentralized, but in a pulverized manner, at the level of about 7,837 **cartorios** and private offices. The **cartorios**, the executive registration units, serve the Brazil's population of about 161 million (1995), living in 4 491 municipalities in all units of the Federation and the Federal District. These **cartorios** are spreaded in an area of about 8.5 million of square kilometers. Their creation respond to the population density and, exceptionally, to the geographical peculiarities. The installation cost is the responsibility of its owner, and so is the revenue. They are, therefore, privately owned. Though the **cartorios** are sub-ordinate to the Judicial Power, they suffer from lack of control and technical and administrative direction. This administrative sub-ordination constitutes a limitation to their development and improvement as the Judicial Power is not responsible for preparing norms and technical guidance for civil registration. This is naturally associated with the autonomous administrative status of the federation.

The federal organization of Brazil consists of 26 states and a Federal District. They have their own constitution and legislation that follow the principles of the Federal Constitution. States are subdivided into municipalities, totaling 4,491, which constitute the lowest hierarchy in Brazilian political and administrative structure. In turn, Each Municipality has its own organic laws, which are in accordance to the principles established in the Federal Constitution and in the Constitution of the State to which it belongs. There is not State Civil Registration Office in any of its 26 states or in the Federal District to oversee the registration work within the state.

At the national level, the Ministry of Justice is vested with the responsibility for the technical, operational, and administrative coordination of civil registration. Because of its legal nature, however, it exerts only a timid surveillance of civil registration from the legal point of view. Furthermore, the related legal framework itself only provides very general direction to civil registration. Another major concern is that vital records do not have back ups or duplicates. Also, because vital records are kept in paper form only, checking for duplications, fraud or counterfeiting is almost impossible.

Brazil does not have, a coordinating body to provide the technical framework for civil registration and vital statistics, e.g, a national committee on civil registration and vital statistics, in which the producers and users can be represented.

The above-mentioned settings for civil registration contribute to the lack of uniformity of the registration procedures. Civil registration was never organized following an administrative chain. Consequently, it does not respond to norms and censures related to the compliance of legal mandates. The system also faces legal, and technical problems. To these, one can add the lack of knowledge of certain groups of the population about the registration requirements and benefits.

⁴ . Alicia Marta Bercovich y Maria Gonzales de Morell: Algunas Consideraciones sobre los Sistemas de Registro Civil y Estadísticas Vitales en Brasil. Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, 1991 (presentado en el Taller Latinoamericano para Acelerar el Mejoramiento de los Sistemas de Registro Civil y Estadísticas Vitales, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2 al 6 de diciembre de 1991, organizado por la División de Estadística, Departamento de Desarrollo Económico y Social, Naciones Unidas).

The Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estadística (IBGE), of the **Secretaría de Planificación, Presupuesto y Coordinación**, Presidency of the Republic, is responsible for the compilation and publication of vital statistics for the country as a whole. The law no. 6015, of 31 December 1973, modified by the laws nos. 6140, of 28 de November of 1974 and 6216 of 30 of June 1975, regulates vital statistics and assigns the responsibility of production of vital statistics to IBGE. IBGE is the central institution of the National Statistical and Geographic System of Brazil.

The Regional Offices of IBGE and its Collection Agencies, have the responsibility for collecting and partially processing information pertaining to all areas of IBGE's responsibility. In the specific case of vital statistics, the Collection Agents in the municipalities of their mandate are responsible for providing blank statistical forms to every **cartorio**, collecting the forms once filled in, and checking the consistency of information. Transcription is employed by the officials of the **cartorios** to complete the statistical forms on the basis of information in the birth, death and marriage records.

The Collection Agents, forward all statistical forms duly completed to the State Office of IBGE. This office is responsible for editing, coding, data entry, computer-editing and consistency of the data. The information is transmitted afterwards to central office of IBGE in Rio de Janeiro, through the local computers connected on line to this central office. Its Population Department, which is responsible for demographic statistics, deals with the tabulation and publication of vital statistics for the country as a whole.

Although, by law, IBGE is clearly responsible for the vital statistics programme in Brazil, some institutions at the federal and state level maintain their own routines for the collection, compilation and processing of vital statistics. For example, the Ministry of Health processes deaths by causes, and it is also making efforts to build up the information system for live births. On the other hand, the States of Minas Gerais, Rio Grande do Sul, Sao Paulo, among others, maintain vital statistics systems at the state level and produce vital statistics regularly.

The coverage of vital statistics and their quality are closely related to the level and quality of civil registration. However, there are other problems directly related to the IBGE that add to these. For example, the processing of the information has suffered considerable delays, leading to late publication and dissemination of vital statistics. These delays are due to the fact that vital statistics do not receive high priority within IBGE, and they have to compete with its other activities. However, from the information received at the United Nations Statistics Division after the 1991 workshop, it seems that improvements have been made at IBGE to publish vital statistics more timely.

The inter-action of the above-mentioned factors translate into incomplete registration coverage, inaccuracies in the characteristics collected in the vital records, late registrations, vulnerability for counterfeiting of vital records, duplications of registration, etc. Due to Brazilian regional differences, the poorest areas, which need greatest public investment, have lower level of civil registration coverage. These factors prevent the full utilization of data and information from civil registration and vital statistics as a guiding element for the development of social public policies.

The study on accelerated improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems in Brazil (1994) undertook an assessment of the systems, including its legal aspects, from the enactment of the laws to their modifications and their most recent form. It also evaluated the institutional responsibilities and local administrative settings to conduct registration, the technical and procedural issues. Based on the problems identified, feasible and workable activities to correct these problems were proposed. If implemented, they would lead to the improvement of civil registration and vital statistics in Brazil in terms of coverage, quality, timeliness, internal and external comparability of data and enhance its administration. Such improvement programme needs to be closely related to the national integration process as well as to the elimination of regional inequalities.

Several steps have been proposed to start the re-organization process. Chief of it is the creation of an Inter-ministerial Commission, which should include representatives of the Legislative and the Judiciary Powers, the IBGE, representatives of the *cartorios*, the States, and main users of the data and information. The primary role of this Commission would be to undertake in depth studies of the civil registration and vital statistics systems in each state, prepare necessary recommendations for their improvement, including the administrative reforms required, the inter-institutional coordination needed to maximize the use of country resources. The modernization of civil registration in Brazil will require the strengthening of the administrative infrastructure of the Ministry of Justice as well, in order to be able to provide proper technical direction, coordination, and supervision to the civil registration work in the *cartorios*, maintain close collaborative working relationships with IBGE, the State Offices, and all other concerned agencies.

The proposal was considered viable in Brazil, from the technical point of view. Brazil has indeed the manpower and necessary economical infrastructure in all its regions (e.g., energy, transportation, communication facilities) to respond to the new demands of upgraded civil registration and vital statistics systems. The key issue is to obtain the financial support from the government and its long-term commitment to provide for office enhancement, technical guidance, methodological documentation, modern methods of storage and retrieval, data bases, training of human resources, evaluation, etc.

It was stressed that a national improvement programme of this nature should include all concerned government agencies so that it will become a government project and not an isolated activity of a single agency. The benefits of the project largely outweigh the cost of its implementation. Overlapping would be eliminated. Security and preservation of vital records would be enhanced. availability of reliable and timely registration data and statistics will contribute to a more accurate evaluation of the existing social problems, the government programs would be better designed, implemented, evaluated and monitored, the rights of the population of Brazil duly protected, among a wide range of other benefits for the society. Therefore, sustained government support, both politically and financially, for their improvement is highly recommended.

b. Argentina

Civil registration in Argentina is a responsibility of the Federal Government. In 1963, a comprehensive law No. 8204 with national scope, was passed and came into effect in 1964 to govern all matters pertaining to **civil registration and the legal capacity of the persons**. This was a breakthrough for both the country and its provinces. This law has suffered few modifications throughout the years and continues to be the main legal body for civil registration in the country. A few complementary laws that were passed dealt with divorce, adoption, and amended some of its articles. Foetal deaths are not included in these laws and are registered according the Health Ministry law. In practice, however, these laws have been interpreted differently by the provinces as seen in their own laws and regulations that have been passed.

Argentina has also a population register, known as the **National Registration of the Persons (NRP)**, which is governed by laws No. 13482, and 17671. It deals, *inter alia*, with the identification of persons, from birth and through all stages of life until death. The site of its central office is Buenos Aires, the capital city. It was mandated that "while the NRP installs its own offices throughout the country, all civil registration offices in the country will be considered as such". Therefore, the civil registration offices are responsible for both the registration of vital events, and population registration.

The assessment of civil registration in Argentina, which was conducted for the 1991 Latin American Workshop, concluded that a revision of the legal framework is necessary to take care of all provincial variations introduced⁶. Argentina has separate civil registration systems in each major administrative division. The **Direccion General de Registro Civil**, under the Ministry of the Government of the province administers civil registration within its jurisdiction. The primary units for civil registration are known as "**Oficinas de Registro Civil**", "**Delegaciones**" and the site may be the municipalities, hospitals, court of justice, as well as own offices. There are 2 537 primary registration offices, excluding the **Direcciones Generales de Registro**. There are also 35 subsidiary registration offices. In general there are no problems of accessibility to the registration offices. For the population of Chaco, the **Direccion General of Civil Registration of Chaco** has mobile units which visit the areas periodically. All civil registrars receive training and advice from the senior personnel at the **Direccion General de Registro Civil**. Furthermore, they are provided with manuals, laws and regulations, periodical bulletins concerning civil registration, manuals concerning notification of vital events for statistical purposes, etc.

⁶ Jose Pirota, Alejandro Giusti, Elida Marconi y Graciela Dinardi: Informe Nacional sobre el Estado Actual del Registro Civil y el Sistema de Estadísticas Vitales en Argentina. Taller Latinoamericano sobre Estrategias para Acelerar el Mejoramiento de los Sistemas de Registro Civil y Estadísticas Vitales, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2-6 de diciembre de 1991.

Technical supervision of the local civil registrars is periodically carried out by the local authority of the Government and covers all civil registrars. The civil registration of Argentina is considered as a good system. Vital records have duplicates. The percentage of coverage of vital events range from 95 to 98 percent, depending of the province.

The Sub-System of Vital Statistics is a component of the National System of Health Statistics, by official delegation of the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses through a memorandum of agreement. The Institute is the center agency of the National Statistical System of Argentina. The production and publication of vital statistics of all types for the country as a whole is the responsibility of the **Dirección de Estadísticas de Salud (DES)** of the Ministry of Health and Social Action, which belongs to the Secretariat of Health of the Nation. The forms utilized to collect information for vital statistics purposes are separate from the legal records. Also, their contents are more detailed and comprehensive than the legal records.

Furthermore, the Secretariat of Health of the Nation, to which the Ministry of Health and Social Action belongs to, has signed memorandums of agreement with all 24 four governments of the federation, where the responsibilities of both central and province level, are clearly established concerning the National Statistical System of Health. These memorandums of agreement are revised every five years.

The Statistical Office of the each province receives the statistical reports from the local registration units. There, manual editing, coding, data entry is carried out. The majority of provinces use microcomputers, some use computer terminals and magnetic tape or disk for data entry into a main frame. DES receive the information in magnetic media and conducts computer editing, corrections and tabulations. DES has provided printed guidelines for all stages of data processing to the Statistical Offices of the provinces.

After the workshop, an Inter-Institutional Committee has been established that oversees both civil registration and vital statistics systems in the country. Its contributions to the improvement of the systems are remarkable. Twenty four workshops, similar to the Latin American workshop, were conducted in the provinces during 1992 and 1993. As a result, in depth studies of CR/VS have been carried out in the 24 provinces of Argentina and the Federal District. Same number of inter-institutional committees were established following the provincial workshops and all are operational. The agencies involved in civil registration and vital statistics are represented in those committees, e.g., the registration offices, the health offices, and the regional office of the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses. Thus producers and users work in a co-ordinating and collaborative way. It is planned to carry out a second round of workshops to assess the progress. The committees efforts are currently directed at enhancing further completeness of registration, increasing skills of registrars and health personnel involved, and improving quality of the topics collected, timeliness of registration and vital statistics production.

The efforts carried out by the Government of Argentina are worth mentioning, especially because even amidst the disparities in registration procedures and interpretation of the federal law by the provinces, INDEC and the Health Ministry and Social Action have made a great work to provide direction to the collection of information for statistical purposes, and at the same time have improved civil registration nationwide.

REGION AND COUNTRY	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	<u>Subnational</u>	<u>National</u>	
Algeria	...	Ministere de l'Interieur	Office National des Statistiques Premier Ministere
Angola	Registo civil	Direccao Nacional dos Registos Notariado e Identificacao, Ministerio de Justica	Direccao Nacional de Estadistica Ministerio de Plano
Benin	Mairie	Ministere de l'Interieur	Institut National de la Statistique et de l'Analyses Economique, Ministere du Plan et de Reconstruction Economique
Botswana	District Commissioner's Office	Civil Registration Division Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs	Central Statistical Office, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Burkina Faso	Centres d'etat civil	Ministere de l'Administration Territoriale	Institut National de la Statistiques et de la Demographie, Ministere du Plan et de la Coope
Burundi	...	Department de la Population Ministere de l'Interieur	Department de la Population Ministere de l'Interieur
Cameroon	Bureau Municipal Ministere de l'Administration Territoriale	Service d'Etat Civil Ministere de l'Administration Territoriale	Direction de la Statistique et de la Comptabi National, Ministere du Plan et Amenagement du Territoire
Cape Verde	Secretariado administrativos	Direccao Geral dos Registos e Notariado, Ministerio da Justica	Direccao Geral de Estatistica Ministerio de Cordenacao Economica
Central African Republic	Les centres d'etat civil	Service de l'Etat Civil et de la Demographic, Ministere de la Securite Public et de l'Administration	Service de l'Etat Civil et du Recensement Demographique, Ministere de l'Interieur
Chad	Centres d'etat civil Ministere de l'Interieur et de la Securite	Direction de la Statistique, des Etudes Economiques et Demographie Ministere du Plan de la Cooperation	Direction de la Statistiques, des Etudes Econo et Demographiques, Direction du Plan, Ministe du Plan et de la Cooperation
Comoros	...	...	...
Congo	Bureau d'etat civil Ministere de l'Interieur	Direction Nationale de l'Etat Civil, Ministere de l'Interieur	Centre National de la Statistique et des Economiques, Ministere du Plan et de l'Economi
Djibouti	...	Direction de la Population Ministere de l'Interieur des Postes et Telecommunications	Direction National de la Statistique Ministere du Commerce, Transports, et du Tour

REGION AND COUNTRY	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
<u>Africa</u>			
Egypt	Health centers	Civil Registration Department, Ministry of Interior	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics
Equatorial Guinea	District courts of justice	Juzgado de Distrito, Ministerio de Justicia Culto y Registro Civil	Direccion General de Estadistica, Ministerio Economia y Hacienda
Ethiopia	...	Ministry of Interior (rural areas), Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (urban areas)	Central Statistical Authorities
Gabon	Centres Principaux et secondaires	Ministeries of the Interior and Justice	...
Gambia	Health Inspectors	Medical & Health Dept., Ministry of Health, Labour & Social Welfare	Medical & Health Dept., Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Welfare
Ghana	Municipal offices, hospitals & health centers	Births & Deaths Registry, Ministry of Local Government	Births & Deaths Registry, Central Registry Office Ministry of Local Government
Guinea	...	...	...
Guinea-Bissau	Delegacoes do Registro Civil (Sector Regional)	Registro Civil, Comissariado de Estado de Justicia	Direcao General de Estadistica, Comissariado de Estado de Desenvolvimento Economico e Planificacao
Ivory Coast	Les Mairies et Sous-Prefectures	Ministere de l'Interieur	Institut National de la Statistiques, Ministere de l'Economique, Finances et Plan
Kenya	Local registry, offices and District registers	Department of Civil Registration, Office of the President	Central Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Planning and National Development
Lesotho	District Secretaries	Registrar General's Office Ministry of Law & Human Rights	Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Planning, Economic and Manpower Development
Liberia	County registrars	Bureau of Health & Vital Statis- tics, Ministry of Health & Social Welfare	Bureau of Health & Vital Statistics, Ministry of Health & Social Welfare
Libya	Civil registration office	Civil Registration Section Secretariat of Utilities	Census & Statistics Department, Secretariat of Planning
Madagascar	Communes	Direction du Controle et de la Tutelle des Collectivites, Ministere de l'Interieur	Institut National de la Statistique et de la Reserche Economique, Presidence charge des Finance et du Plan
Malawi	District Commissioners	Department of the Registrar General, Ministry of Justice	National Statistical Office Office of the President

REGION AND COUNTRY	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
<u>Africa</u>			
Mali	Centres l'Etat Civil	Direction National de l'Administration Territoriale Ministere d'Etat Charge de l'Administration Territoriale et de la Secruite Interieur	Direction Nationale de la Statistique et du l'Information, Ministere des Finance, de l'Economie dt du Plan
Mauritania	...	Secretariat d'Etat Civil Ministere de l'Interieur, des Postes et Telecommunications	Secretariat d'Etat Civil Office National de la Statistique, Ministere du Plan et de l'Amenagement du territoire
Mauritius	Civil Status Office	Civil Status Office Prime Minister's Office	Central Statistical Office Ministry of Economic Planning & Development
Morocco	Bureau locaux d'etat civil	Division d'etat civil, Ministere de l'Interieur	Direction de la Statistique, Ministere charge de l'incitation de l'Economie, Premier Ministere
Mozambique	...	Direccao Nacional dos Registos e Notoriados	Direccao Nacional de Estadistica Comissao Nacional do Plano
Namibia	...	Department of Civil Affairs Ministry of Home Affairs	Central Statistical Office National Planning Commission
Niger	...	Direction de l'Etat Civil et de Population, Ministere de l'Interieur	Direction de la Statistique e des Comptes Nationaux, Ministere du Plan
Nigeria	State ministries of health local government & teaching hospitals	National Population Commission Presidency	National Population Commission Presidency
Senion	...	...	...
Rwanda	Bureaux communaux d'etat civil	Direction General des Affaires Politiques et Administrative Ministere de l'Interieur et du Development Communal	Direction Generale de la Statistique, Ministere du Plan
Saint Helena	...	...	...
S. Tome & Principe	...	Departamento do Registo Civil Ministerio de Justica e Funcao Publica	Direccao de Estadistica, Ministerio de Economie e Financas

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Africa</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Senegal	...	Projet de l'Etat Civil, Ministere charge de la Decentralization	Direction de la Statistique, Ministere des Finance et des Affaires Economiques
Seychelles	Government administration	Civil Status Division Department of Youth & Defense	Statistical Section, Management Information Systems Division, Dept. of Finance
Sierra Leone	Births & deaths office Ministry of Health	Office of Chief Registrar Ministry of Health	Medical Statistics Unit Ministry of Health
Somalia	None	None	None
South Africa	District representatives	Department of Home Affairs Department of Co-operation and Development	Central Statistical Services, Department of Constitutional Development and Planning
Sudan	Hospitals, dispensaries, dressing stations	Ministry of Health	Department of Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Swaziland	Hospitals, clinics, police stations, chiefs of area	Registrar General's Office Ministry of Justice	Central Statistical Office Department of Economic Planning and Statistics
Tanzania	Health centers	Office of Registrar General, Ministry of Justice	Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Planning & Economic Affairs
Togo	Centres d'etat civil	Division des Affaires, Politiques et Administratives, Ministere de l'Interieur	Direction de la Statistique, Ministere du Plan
Tunisia	Centres d'etat civil (Commune)	Ministere de l'Interieur	Direction des Statistiques, Demographiques et Sociales, Institut National de la Statistics, Ministere du Plan
Uganda	Subcountry headquarters Ministry of Local Government	Registrar General of Births & Deaths, Ministry of Justice	Statistics Department, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Western Sahara	...	...	...

REGION AND COUNTRY

Africa

CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION

Subnational

National

NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE

Zaire

Bureaux de l'etat civil

Etat Zairois, Ministere de
Administration du TerritoireInstitut National de la Statistique
Ministere du Plan

Zambia

Provincial, district & sub-
centers (schools, health
centers and local courts)Department of National Regis-
tration, Ministry of Home
Affairs

Census and Statistics Department

Zimbabwe

Provincial & district registries

Central Registry, Ministry of
Home AffairsCentral Statistical Office, Ministry of
Finance, Economic Planning & Development

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>America, North</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Aguila	...	...	...
Antigua & Barbuda	...	...	Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance
Bahamas	District Register Office	Registrar General's Dept.; Office of Attorney General	Department of Statistics Ministry of Finance
Barbados	Subsidiary registration offices	Registration Department Attorney General, Supreme Court	Statistical Service
Belize	District Offices for Civil Registry	Registry Judiciary Department	Central Statistical Office Ministry of Finance
Bermuda		Registry General Ministry of Labour & Home Affairs	Registry General Ministry of Labour & Home Affairs
British Virgin Islands	...	...	...
Canada	Provincial & Territorial Vital Statistics Offices (Health)	None	Statistics Canada
Cayman Islands	Subregistration Office District Post Office	Registrar of Companies Dept., Dept. of Finance & Development	Economics & Statistics Office
Costa Rica	Regional Offices	Direccion General Registro Civil Tribunal Supremo de Elecciones	Dirreccion General de Estadistica y Censos, Ministerio de Economica y Comercio
Cuba	Oficina de Registro Civil	Direccion Registro Civil y Notariado, Ministerio de Justicia	Instituto de Investigaciones Estadisticas Oficina Nacional de Estadisticas, Ministerio Economia y Plannificacion
Dominica	...	Oficina de Estado Civil	Statistical Offices Ministry of Finance
Dominican Republic	Oficina de Estado Civil	Junta Central Electoral Organismo O Tribunal qua Organizalas Elecciones Nacionales	Oficina Nacional de Estadistica; Direccion Nacional de Estadistica
El Salvador	Oficina de Registro Civil	None	Direccion General de Estadistica; Ministeri

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>America, North</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
St. Lucia	District Registrars	Registry of the Supreme Court Ministry of Legal Affairs	Government Statistics Department, Ministry of Finance, Statistics and Negotiating
St. Pierre & Miquelon	...	...	...
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	District Registrars	Registrar General's Office Registry Department	Statistics Office, Ministry of Finance and Planning
Suriname	District Registrars	Central Institute for Civil Registration, Ministry of Home Affairs, Bureau of Public Health	Central Institute for Civil Registration, Ministry of Home Affairs, Bureau of Public Health (death statistics)
Trinidad & Tobago	Registry Office	Registrar General's Department Ministry of Legal Affairs	Central Statistical Office, Ministry of Finance and Planning
Turks & Cacos Islands	...	Attorney General's Office	Office of Prime Minister
United States	Local health departments	None	National Center for Health Statistics Department of Health & Human Services

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>America, South</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Argentina	Oficina del Registro Civil	None	Direccion de Estadistica de Salud, Ministerio de Salud y Accion Social
Bolivia	Direcciones Departamentales y Oficina Locales de Registro Civil	Direccion Nacional de Registro Civil Ministerio del Interior, Migracion y Justicia	Instituto Nacional de Estadistica, Ministerio de Planieamiento y Coordinacion
Brazil	Cartorios de Registro de Pessoas Naturals	Ministerio de Justica	Fundacao Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estadistica, Secretaria de Planejamento, Orgamento e Coordenação
Chile	Municipal offices, health center and revenue office	Direccion Nacional del Servicio de Registro Civil e Identificacion, Ministerio de Justicia	Instituto Nacional de Estadistica, Ministerio de Economia, Fomento y Reconstruccion
Colombia	Municipal office, notary, police station	Direccion Nacional de Registro Civil, Superendencia de Notariado y Registro Civil, Ministerio de Justicia	Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadistica
Ecuador	Oficina de Registro Civil	Direccion General de Registro Civil, Identification y Cedulaçion, Ministerio de Gobierno	Instituto Nacional de Estadistica y Censos Adscrito a la Vicepresidencia de la Republica
Guyana	Health centers, hospitals	General Registrar Office Ministry of Home Affairs	Statistical Bureau, Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance
Paraguay	Oficina de Registro Civil	Direccion General del Registro de Estado Civil de las Personas, Ministerio de Justicia y Trabajo	Direccion General de Estadistica y Censos, Secretaria Tecnica de Planificion del Deasrrollo Economico y Social de la Presidencia
Peru	Oficina de Registro Civil	Oficina General de Asesoria Juridica, Ministerio de Justicia	Instituto nacional de Estadistica e Informatica Primer Ministro

REGION AND COUNTRY	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
<u>America, South (Cont.)</u>			
Uruguay	Ofician de Registro de Estado Civil	Direccion General del Registro del Estado Civil, Ministereo de Educacion y Cultura	Division Estadistica, Ministereo de Salud Publica
Venezuela	Prefecturas, Municipales, Gobernaciones de Estado	Direccion de Registro Civil y Notario, Ministerio de Justicia	Oficina Central de Estadistica e Informatica Secretaria de la Presidencia
<u>Asia</u>			
Afghanistan	Population Registration and Vital Statistics, Directorate, Provincial Police Dept.	Population Registration Dept., Ministry of Interior	Census and Survey Department, Central Statistics Office , Coordination Department
Armenia	Municipal offices Ministry of Justice	Department of Civil Acts Registration, Ministry of Justice	State Committee on Statistics
Azerbaijan	Municipal offices	Ministry of Justice	State Committee on Statistics
Bahrain	Births & Deaths Registration Office	Births & Deaths Registration Office, Ministry of Health	Directorate of Statistics, Central Statistics Organization, Council of Ministers
Bangladesh	Thanas, Municipalities	Ministry of Local Government	Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Planning
Bhutan	Local administrative offices	Directorate of Registration, Census & Immigration Division, Ministry of Home Affairs	Central Statistical Organization Planning Commission
Brunei Darussalam	...	Registrar of Births & Deaths, Medical & Health Dept. and Judicial Dept.	Ministry of Health

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Asia Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
China	City or County Public Bureau	Administration Division for Population Registration, Ministry of Public Security	Administration Division for Population Registration, Third Bureau, Ministry of Public Security
Cyprus	District office	Registration Service, Ministry of Interior	Department of Statistics & Research, Ministry of Finance
Georgia		Department of Notariate and Registration, Ministry of Justice	Committee on Socio-economic Information
Hong Kong	Birth & Death Register Offices	Births, Deaths & Marriages Subdivision, Immigration Dept.	Census and Statistics Dept. Government Secretariat
India	Office of Chief Registrar of Births and Deaths (State and Union Territory)	None	Office of Registrar General, India Ministry of Home Affairs
Indonesia	Local government office	Directorate General of PYOD Department of Interior	Central Bureau of Statistics Department of Interior
Iran	National civil registration offices	Civil Registration Organization Ministry of Interior	Civil Registration Organization Ministry of Interior
Iraq	Chief medical office	Vital and Health Statistics Section, Directorate General for Medical Services	Vital and Health Statistics Section Directorate General for Medical Services
Israel	Health centers, local population administration	Administration of Population Ministry of Interior	Central Bureau of Statistics Prime Minister's Office
Japan	City, town & village administration offices	Civil Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Justice	Statistics & Information Dept., Ministry of Health and Welfare

Appendix A (Cont.)

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Asia (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Jordan	Civil Registration Office	Civil Status Department Ministry of Interior	Civil Status Department Ministry of Interior
Kampuchea	...	...	...
Kazakhstan	Municipal offices	Vital Registration Bodies Ministry of Justice	State Committee on Statistics and Analysis
Korea, Rep.	Local Government Offices	Bureau of Registry Ministry of Court Administration	National Statistical Office
Kuwait	Health Units	Department of Central Civil Registration, Ministry of Health	Central Statistical Office Ministry of Planning
Kyrgyzstan	...	Registry Office, Ministry of Justice	Demographic Statistics Department State Committee on Statistics
Laos, People's Dem. Rep.	...	...	...
Lebanon	...	...	Central Statistical Office Ministry of Planning
Macao	Conservatoria do Registo Civil	Direccao de Servicos de Justica Secretario-adjunto para a Administracao	Direccao de Servicos des Estadistica e Censos Secretario-Adjunto para os Assuntos
Malaysia	Municipal offices, health centers, police stations, etc.	National Registration Dept. Ministry of Home Affairs	Department of Statistics Prime Minister's Dept.
Maldives	Atoll office, Ministry of Justice for deaths	Health Information Unit (Births) Ministry of Health and Welfare Ministry of Justice (deaths)	Health Information Unit (births), Ministry of Health and Welfare, Ministry of Justice (deaths)
Mongolia	Civil Registrar's office	Notaries Office Ministry of Justice	State Statistical Office, Cultural Education and Health Department

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Asia (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Myanmar	Township medical officers	Health Department Ministry of Health	Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
Nepal	Village Panchayat offices	Office of the Registrar Ministry of Local Development	Office of the Registrar, Ministry of Home
Oman	...	Ministry of Health (not operational)	None
Pakistan	Department of Local Bodies and Rural Development	Civil Registration Organization Ministry of Interior	Federal Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Health, Special Education and Social Welfare
Philippines	City health offices, Treasurer's office of municipalities	Office of Civil Registrar General, National Statistical Office, National Economic and Development Authority	Office of Civil Registrar General, National Statistical Office, National Economic and Development Authority
Qatar	Health centers	Preventive Health Department Ministry of Public Health	Central Statistical Organization, Presidency of the Council of Ministers
Saudi Arabia	...	Directorate of Health Affairs and Directorate of Communicable Disease, Ministry of Health	Department of Statistics, Ministry of Health
Singapore	Registry of Births & Deaths	Registry of Births & Deaths National Registration Dept. Ministry of Home Affairs	Registry of Births & Deaths, National Registration Dept., Ministry of Home Affairs
Sri Lanka	District registrars	Registrar General's Dept. Ministry of Home Affairs and Provincial Councils	Department of Census and Statistics, Ministry of Policy Planning and Implementation
Syria	...	Director General for Civil Registration, Ministry of Interior	Central Bureau of Statistics, Office of Prime Minister

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Europe (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
Bulgaria	Comites executifs des conseils populaires communaux	Commission de comites executifs aupres des conseils populaires Conseil des Ministres	comite sur les Problemes du System Integre d'Information
Croatia	Municipal office	Ministry of Justice and Public Administration	Central Bureau of Statistics
Channel Islands Guernsey	None	Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages	Public Health Department, Board of Health
Jersey	None	Superintendent Registrar	Economic Advisor's Office
Czech Republic	...	...	Statistical Office, Ministry of Interior Affairs
Denmark	Folkeregisteret, State church office (births), Probate courts (deaths)	Dept. of Person Registration Ministry of Interior	Danmarks Statistik Ministry of Economics
England & Wales	District register office	General Register Office Office of Population Censuses	Office of Population Censuses & Surveys
Estonia	...	State Registry Office Ministry of Justice	State Statistical Office Ministry of Finance
Faro Islands	...	...	...
Finland	District population register offices	Population Register Center Ministry of Interior	Statistics Finland
France	Les Maires de Commune	Ministere de la Justica	Institut National de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques, Ministere de l'Economie, des Finance et du Budget
Georgia	...	Department of Notariate and Registration, Ministry of Justice	Socio-Economical Information Committee Department of Labour and Population Statistics

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Europe (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Germany, Fed. Rep.	Local registry	Ministry of Interior	Federal Statistical Office
Gibraltar	Government office	Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Supreme Court	Statistics Office
Greece	Registry office	Division on Citizenship Ministry of Interior	National Statistical Service Ministry of National Economy
Hungary	Municipal offices	National Offices of Personal Data and Residential Address Registration, Ministry of Interior	Central Statistical Office
Iceland	Municipal offices	National Registry Statistical Bureau	Statistical Bureau
Ireland	Health Boards	General Register Office Department of Health	Central Statistics Office Department of the Taoiseach
Isle of Man	None	General Registry	General Registry and Treasury Statistician
Italy	Uffici di Stato Civile dei Comuni	Direzione Generale Affari Civili e Libere Professioni Ministero di Grazia e Giustizia	Istituto Nazionale di Statistics
Latvia	...	Registry Department Ministry of Justice	State Committee for Statistics Ministry of Economy
Lichtenstein	Municipal office	Zivilstandsamt Ministry of Interior	Amt für Volkswirtschaft Office of National Economy
Lithuania	...	Department of Statistics	Department of Statistics
Luxembourg	Municipal offices	Administrations Communales	Service Central de la Statistique et des Etudes Economiques, Ministère de l'Economie

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Asia (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Tajikistan	...	Civil Registration Directorate Ministry of Justice	State Statistical Agency
Thailand	Provincial & district administration	Administrative and Civil Registration Division Ministry of Interior	Health Statistics Division, Ministry of Public Health
United Arab Emirate	...	Central Preventive Medicine Directorate, Health Ministry	Central Statistical Department, Ministry of Planning
Uzbekistan	...	...	...
Viet Nam	...	General Statistical Office Ministry of Home	Population Statistics Division General Statistical Office
Yemen	Local Registration Offices	Civil Registration Department Ministry of Justice	...
<u>Europe</u>			
Albania	...	Central Directorate of Statistics Council of Ministers	Central Directorate of Statistics, Council of Ministers
Andorra	...	...	...
Austria	Gemeinde; Standesamtsverband	Federal Ministry of Interior	Central Statistical Office
Belgium	Municipal offices	Registere National des Personnes Ministere de l'Interieur	Institut National de Statistique
Belarus	Municipal Office	Executive Committees of Soviets of People's Deputies	State Committee on Statistics and Analysis

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Europe (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Macedonia	Municipal offices	Civil Registration Office Ministry of Interior	Statistical Office
Malta	Police offices	Public Registry, Ministry of Justice & Parliamentary Affairs	Central Statistical Office
Moldova	...	Ministry of Justice	Department of Statistics
Monaco	None	Mairie de Monaco	Service des Statistiques et des Etudes e Economiques, Ministere des Finances e Economie
Netherlands	Local registration office	None	Central Bureau of Statistics Ministry of Economic Affairs
Norway	Revenue offices	Office of the National Register Directorate of Taxes	Statistics Norway Ministry of Finance
Poland	Civil Registry Offices	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Central Statistical Office Department of Information
Portugal	Local registration offices	Direccao-Geral Registos e Notariado, Ministry of Justice	National Statistical Institute Ministry of Planning 7 Territory Administration
Romania	Municipal, city & village councils	None	Directia Centrala de Statistica
Russian Federation	Municipal offices	...	State Committee on Statistics
San Marino	...	...	...
Scotland	Municipal offices	General Register Office of Births, Deaths & Marriages	General Register Office of Births, Deaths & Marriages
Slovakia	Municipal office	Ministry of Interior	Statistical Office, Department of Social Statistics and Demography

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Europe (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Slovenia	Municipal office	Municipal Registrar's Office Ministry of Interior	Statistical Office
Spain	Municipal office	Direccion General de los Registros y del Notariado, Ministerio de Justicia e Interior	Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Ministerio de Economía y Hacienda
Sweden	Parish Civil Registration Office	National Tax Board Ministry of Finance	Statistics Sweden Ministry of Finance
Switzerland	Municipal office	Federal Civil Registration Office, Federal Department of Justice and Police	Federal Statistical Office Department of Interior
Turkey	Local state offices	General Directorate of Popula- tion and Citizenship Affairs Ministry of Internal Affairs	State Institute of Statistics Prime Minister's Office
Yugoslavia	Local registrar Office of Secretariats for Internal Affairs	Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs	Federal Statistical Office
<u>Oceania</u>			
American Samoa	...	...	...
Australia	State Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages	None	Bureau of Statistics
Cook Islands	Island Registry	Births & Deaths Registry Department of Justice	Statistics Office

REGION AND COUNTRY	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
<u>Oceania</u>			
Fiji	Civil Registry District Administration	Office of Registrar General, Office of Attorney-General	Bureau of Statistics Ministry of Finance
French Polynesia	Mairies	...	...
Guam	Government office	Office of Vital Statistics Department of Public Health and Social Services	Office of Vital Statistics, Department of Public Health and Social Services
Kirbati	Local Government office	Registrar-General's Office Ministry of Finance	Statistics Office Ministry of Finance
Nauru	...	...	...
New Zealand	Municipal Offices District Court	Office of Registrar General Department of Justice	Statistics New Zealand
Niue	Local registration office	Registrar of Births, Deaths & Marriages, Department of Justice, Land and Survey	Statistics Unit, Department of Planning and Development
Papua New Guinea	None	Civil Registration Service Department of Religion, Home Affairs and Youth	National Statistical Office
Western Samoa	Registrar in Apia Government representative	Births, Deaths & Marriages Registration Office	Department of Statistics
Soloman Islands	None	Ministry of Home Affairs	Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Tonga	Office of Magistrate Government representative (outer islands)	Registrar General's Office Ministry of Justice	Vital Statistics Division Ministry of Justice

REGION AND COUNTRY <u>Oceania (Cont.)</u>	CIVIL REGISTRATION ADMINISTRATION		NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS OFFICE
	Subnational	National	
Tuvalu	Health centers	Medical Division, Ministry of Health, Education and Community Affairs	Ministry of Health, Education and Community Affairs
Vanuatu	...	Civil Registration Office Health Department	Statistics Office, National Planning and Statistics Office
Wallis & Fortuna	...	...	...

7/ SOURCE: International Institute for Civil Registration and Statistics: Organizatio of National Civil Registration Systems: An Update, Annex A.. op.cit.